

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Amend the last paragraph on page 5 of the application as follows:

In another embodiment, the ribbed portion of the shaft has an elongate rectangular cross-section with the longer axis in the LM direction, the axis ratio being at least $[[1:4]]$ 1.4 to 1. At the distal end, where the cross section is measured at a distance of 1 cm from the end to take into account the possible presence of a rounded end, the axis ratio is at least $[[1:5]]$ 1.5 to 1. In this case, a rib should be provided at least on each of the two lateral edges, since the guiding task assigned to the ribs is especially important at this location. To ensure that neither of these edges is prevented from coming into guiding contact with the boundary of the medullary canal by other projecting parts of the shaft, the shaft core cross-section between the two ribs located on the lateral edges should not protrude further laterally than these. If there is a further lateral rib present between the two ribs located on the lateral edges, this further rib should protrude not more than 2 mm, preferably not more than 1 mm, further laterally than these.